MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1981

Israel

Begin Speech--In a speech to the Knesset, relayed live by Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that after Syria moved three SAM-6 missile batteries into Lebanon, he ordered the chief of staff to destroy them on 30 April but bad weather forced postponement of the operation until the next day. Begin said that the next day, however, he agreed to a U.S. request that Israel allow time to exhaust political moves but initially granted a respite only until 4 May. In the meantime, Syria introduced more missiles, Begin said, whereupon Israel agreed to grant the United States additional time to try diplomatic means. Divulging some of the contents of his message to President Ronald Reagan, Begin said that because of the dangers of further delay, Israel would wait only a "relatively short period of time." Syria now has five SAM-6 batteries in Lebanon with four more on the Syrian-Lebanese border, and it has also deployed two SAM-2 and two SAM-3 batteries on the border, he revealed. Libyan units are also in Lebanon, Begin claimed, operating a SAM-9 battery.

Begin went on to make a personal appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to let the Jews in Syria leave their "ghetto" and to pull back from the brink of "the abyss" and remove the Syrian missiles from Lebanon, thereby restoring the status quo ante. If this appeal is not heeded, Begin added, Israel will have to look to its "national security interest." Israel will under no circumstances tolerate the presence of the Syrian missiles and the takeover of Mount Sannin, he said, since anyone who controls the mountain and Lebanese airspace would take over the whole of Lebanon and threaten Israel's existence.

Begin also reiterated that Israel's action against Syrian helicopters had saved the Lebanese Christian community from a "total moral breakdown" that would have allowed the Syrians to take over all of northern Lebanon and then move south. Noting that his government has continued and stepped up a policy established by the government of former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin of providing military assistance to the Lebanese Christians, Begin reaffirmed Israel's moral commitment to save them from annihilation. He said there is a "national consensus" in Israel that if diplomacy fails, Israel should use military measures to neutralize the Syrian missiles.

Regarding Israel's relations with the United States, Begin said the two countries are in a "permanent alliance." He said they agree that Syria is no longer a peacekeeping and stabilizing force in Lebanon, support active opposition to "terrorist organizations" and are opposed to the expansion of Soviet imperialism in the Middle East. However, despite the U.S. administration's friendliness toward Israel, Begin went on, the U.S. decision to sell additional fuel pods for F-15's and supply AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia has caused a problem. Noting that the Saudis have described Israel, not the Soviet Union, as the real danger in the Middle East, Begin said Saudi Arabia could use long-range F-15's against Israel while Israel would not feel able to shoot down AWACS aircraft carrying U.S. personnel.

Peres Speech--Replying to Begin, Alignment leader Shim'on Peres told the Knesset that there is no consensus in Israel regarding policy toward Lebanon, and he criticized Begin for creating false impressions. He also said in his speech, broadcast live by Jerusalem radio, that Israel must exhaust all diplomatic means to make it clear to the Syrians that it does not accept the presence of their missile bases in the Al-Biqa' valley, Peres said. He revealed that Begin had not consulted the opposition leaders before deciding to down Syrian helicopters and ordering the attack on the SAM missiles on 30 April. Such security matters should be coordinated between government and opposition he said, through a "prior, balanced and responsible dialogue."

Habib Mission

Habib, Begin Meeting--During a 90-minute meeting in Jerusalem on 11 May, Prime Minister Begin and U.S. special envoy Philip Habib discussed the results of his talks in Beirut and Damascus on the Lebanese crisis, Jerusalem radio reported. It added that they refused to divulge the contents of their talk to reporters but said they had agreed to meet again.

Palestinian Commentary--An unattributed commentary broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio charged that the U.S. special envoy's mission to the Middle East chiefly serves the objectives of the Israelis and the Lebanese isolationist forces. U.S. actions in the Middle East, it charged, are invariably hostile to Palestinian objectives, and the envoy has come to the area now only because the deployment of Syrian antiaircraft missiles in Lebanon has prevented Israel from attacking Palestinians and members of the Lebanese National Movement, which the United States had given it permission to do.

Lebanon

Military Situation--Voice of Lebanon reported that Israeli planes overflying Al-Biqa' valley drew SAM fire but that no planes were hit. It also reported that 40 Syrian tanks have entered Lebanon through Al-Masna'. Monitored Syrian media did not mention either of these reports. According to Beirut radio, the situation in Beirut remains tense despite a cease-fire. Earlier reports from this radio had mentioned sporadic machinegun fire along the traditional contact lines in the capital and its southern suburbs following a day of increased shelling.

Other Developments--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has postponed his visit to Lebanon, according to Beirut radio, because of his heavy work schedule. Beirut radio reported that President Ilyas Sarkis held separate meetings with Arab Deterrent Forces Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib and Director General of the Internal Security Forces Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj. Cairo radio reported that in a statement to the People's Assembly, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that Egypt is holding contacts with the Lebanese and Palestinians as well as with international parties to stop the escalation of the situation in Lebanon. He added that Egypt has invited the Arab states concerned to hold a meeting on the problem.

Syria

Voice of Lebanon reported the arrival of the Soviet Army chief of staff in Damascus. According to the radio, he met with his Syrian counterpart, Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, and discussed the drawing up of a joint military plan to "confront the developments" arising from the missile crisis between Syria and Israel and also inspected the SAM bases. Voice of Lebanon also reported that SAM batteries have been installed in the Latakia-Tartus coastal area to thwart any air strikes coming from the north. Monitored Damascus media did not mention these reports. Damascus radio did report that the Higher Civil Defense Council met under Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra uf al-Kasm to discuss civil defense programs and ways to implement them.

PLO-Iraq

Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and other top officials to discuss the situation in Lebanon. During the meeting, the radio said, Husayn stressed the importance of solidarity with the Palestinian resistance movement.

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KARMAL EXPLAINS SOVIET INTERVENTION, PRESENCE

LD112140 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the DRA Revolution Council and DRA prime minister, visited an exhibition of arms, vehicles and equipment of the DRA Armed Forces at the Khaja-Rawash garrison of Kabul airport this morning. He then participated in a glorious meeting held by the officers, soldiers and staff of the air force and air defense force and representatives of units and institutions of the Kabul garrison.

Babrak Karmal was accompanied by Brig Gen Mohammad Rafi', minister of national defense. The two leaders arrived at the Khoja-Rawash garrison at 0900. The honor guard was inspected by Babrak Karmal. Babrak Karmal was welcomed in the garrison headquarters by Dr Saleh Mohammed Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee; Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo, vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister; members of the PDPA Politburo and Central Committee; members of the Revolution Council Presidium; commanders and officers of the air force and air defense force; commanders of the units and institutions of Kabul garrison. Several children presented flowers to the chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister.

BAKHTAR reports that Babrak Karmal, after greeting the welcomers, went to the exhibition of arms, equipment and military vehicles of the armed forces and inspected them. The commanders and officers in charge explained the technical characteristics and firepower of the exhibits. Babrak Karmal spent an hour inspecting the various weapons at this exhibition, which attracted his interest and special attention.

After his visit to the exhibition Babrak Karmal attended a glorious meeting of the officers, soldiers and staff of the air force and air defense force and representatives of the units and institutions of the Kabul garrison, organized for the presentation of medals and badges in the Khoja-Rawash garrison. At the start of this ceremony, Brig Gen Gol Aqa, head of the Armed Forces Political Affairs Department, made a speech. On behalf of the officers, soldiers and staff of the armed forces, he welcomed the visit of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the DRA Revolution Council and DRA prime minister, to the Khoja-Rawash garrison and asked Babrak Karmal to address the meeting.

Babrak Karmal's speech was delivered in an atmosphere of pleasure, happiness, and maximum revolutionary and patriotic fervor. The courageous officers and soliders warmly received the speech with applause and revolutionary slogans.

Addressing the officers and soldiers, Babrak Karmal said: Proud [words indistinct] sons of Afghanistan, patriotic sons: Let us stand and observe a moment of silence in honor of the memory of our martyred fathers who lost their dear lives during the three Afghan-British wars, against the British army of occupation. Let us honor the memory of the men of the freedom-saving heroic Army of Afghanistan, who lost their dear lives after the victory of the Sawr revolution in defense of the freedom, independence, territorial integrity, and dignity and honor of the homeland and in defense of the Sawr revolution and the gains of the revolution.

After the audience stood in honor of the martyrs of the revolution and the freedom of beloved Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal continued his speech: Comrades, patriotic friends of the DRA and members of the proud armed forces of Afghanistan, a few moments ago, the DRA party and government leadership and I visited the exhibition of weapons of the Afghan Armed Forces. I say with all my feeling that when viewing the weapons, equipment and other [word indistinct] in the exhibition, we felt in the depth of our souls and lives the selfless friendship and cooperation of the USSR with Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal added: From here, and from this hall of the heroic and courageous Armed Forces of Afghanistan, we warn and declare to the enemies of Afghanistan's freedom and independence, the satanical counterrevolutionary forces, reaction, imperialism and hegemonism that, relying on the support of the heroic toiling people of Afghanistan and on the indestructible friendship between Afghanistan and the USSR, the glorious Sawr revolution is invincible and is striding forward, step by step, from one victory to another.

Babrak Karmal added: As I have said several times, the enemies of the Afghan revolution, in collusion with U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism, the militarists of Pakistan and the reaction of the region--all in an unholy alliance--have unleashed an undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan. The Afghan people have therefore chosen the true, loyal and tested friend, the defender of peace, freedom, democracy, development and social progress, the great Soviet Union. It is the natural right, the national right, the honorable right of every country, every nation and every people to choose their true friends in today's world when imperialism is imposing war on the toiling people. It is our right to choose our true friends to help defend our freedom and independence. No reactionary imperialist force can advise us about whom to choose as our friends and enemies.

Babrak Karmal added: As I said before, we are facing an undeclared war. Our enemies are assisting the chieftains, feudalists, reactionaries and traitors to the homeland. And you, the courageous and brave troops and officers of Afghanistan, who are defending the Afghan toiling people and the new, revolutionary and progressive Afghanistan, are facing them. Thus, your role, the role of the heroic youth of the Afghan Armed Forces, in this just class war is great and decisive. Today, a historic mission rests on your powerful shoulders, the shoulders of you young officers of the heroic armed forces. We are completely confident that our heroic armed forces, under the leadership of the PDPA, will defend every inch of our soil honorably and heroically and will not shirk any kind of sacrifice.

Babrak Karmal continued: We are fully confident that our heroic armed forces, under the leadership of the PDPA, are advancing everyday toward becoming an aware and conscious force with discipline and order. The time is not far off that we will be able to create a powerful armed force for the defense of peace and security, not only in our country, but also in the region.

Drawing the attention of the officers and troops of the armed forces to their revolutionary and patriotic duties, Babrak Karmal said: Heroic comrades, increase your battle capability with all your power and faith. I believe the courageous and powerful Afghan Army, under the leadership of the PDPA and relying on the noble Afghan people, are preparing for that day when they will completely eliminate the last remnants of the foreign mercenaries and servants from our sacred soil.

Exposing the slanders of Western propaganda circles in relation to the so-called Soviet interference in Afghanistan or the participation of the limited military contingents of the USSR in overthrowing the regime of Amin, Babrak Karmal said: Today, once again, I declare to all the people of the world that the Soviet limited military contingents came to Afghanistan at the request of the government of the late Nur Mohammad Taraki, and subsequently at the request of Hafizollah Amin and prior to the election of Babrak Karmal to responsible positions of leadership. The foreign mass media, including American media, published extensive news in this regard during September and December 1979. I would like to bring to your attention a few examples of those reports which I have gathered from the Western press:

AFP. Brussels [word indistinct] 27 December 1979--NATO circles in Brussels report that unusual military operations by the USSR on the Afghan-Soviet border have recently been witnessed.

[Name indistinct] daily of the United States, 17 December 1979--Five thousand Soviet troops have been placed in Afghanistan. The United States has expressed concern in relation to the daily increasing role of Moscow in the military activity between the Afghan Government and [words indistinct] Moscow.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, 18 December 1979--increase of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan: An intensified and extensive increase of Soviet forces and transport in Afghanistan and along its borders have been confirmed by Western sources. The U.S. State Department has confirmed that the increase of Soviet forces in Afghanistan is continuing. In September the Carter administration once again noted its stand against any kind of interference in the Afghan question.

THE TIMES, 22 December 1979--The USSR has sent 1,500 (?tanks) to Afghanistan.

Washington, [words indistinct]--U.S. State Department spokesman H. Carter said today the USSR is continuing to strengthen its armed forces in Afghanistan and along the border with that country. He said the USSR has sent a group of 1,500 [words indistinct] to the Kabul area. Carter also said that during the last 2 weeks the USSR has sent a minimum of three battalions, each consisting of 400-800 men, by way of Bagram airbase north of Kabul.

[Words indistinct] (?29) December 1979--The number of Soviet forces in Afghanistan has now reached 1,500.

ASSOCIATED PRESS, Washington--The U.S. State Department announced Friday that the USSR has stationed the entire 1,500 troops of the air [word indistinct] in Afghanistan. This act was carried out in the course of increasing the number of armed forces which began in [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] West Germany, 10 February 1980--The U.S. State Department adviser on Soviet affairs, [name indistinct], in January 1980, spoke before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East. He said: We have mentioned (?this) to the USSR at least five times. When the CIA noticed the mobilization of Soviet forces and the transportation of military equipment on the borders of Afghanistan, the United States during the [word indistinct] of last year expressed its concern in this regard to the Soviet Union but did not say what measures it would take.

New York TIMES, 25 January 1980--A letter by (John Sommerwello, PhD), employed in the headquarters of [word indistinct]: Has the Soviet Union acted in contravention of international law? This depends on the answer to the question, Has the Afghan Government requested that armed forces be sent? The USSR says they were requested; the DRA Government also says they were requested. When our government says the Soviet forces intervened in Afghanistan, it has very obviously overlooked international law and truth.

Comrades, friends and compatriots, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that those extracts, taken from the Western press of September-December 1979 [as heard], solely reflected the topic of the strength of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and expressed the so-called U.S. concern in this regard. This means that the Soviet Armed Forces were present in Afghanistan prior to the dates cited above and that their presence in Afghanistan was requested by the Afghan Government of the time.

The fact is that when foreign interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs increased, the number of Soviet forces also gradually increased. The Carter administration officially asked the governments of the USSR and the DRA for explanations, and appropriate explanations were given. Then, after the overthrow of Amin, the U.S. puppet who wanted to install a reactionary government in Afghanistan, the U.S. Government increased its condemnation of the friendly Soviet assistance to Afghanistan. This assistance was interpreted as intervention aimed at changing the regime. But the forces of the Soviet Union entered Afghanistan after being continually requested by the government of the late Nur Mohammad Taraki and subsequently for the defense of the DRA's sovereignty against foreign aggression against Afghanistan.

I, who was previously--that is, from the first days of the revolution--vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minster of the DRA, accepted this request of the previous governments after being appointed to the most responsible posts of the party and government. The DRA leadership has substantial evidence to the effect that Nur Mohammad Taraki and Hafizollah Amin also requested assistance from the USSR. Hafizollah Amin was overthrown as a result of the activity of the healthy forces of the PDPA, and chiefly the Afghan Army, which is traditionally one of the important forces in the political life of the country.

It should be mentioned here that it was the uprising of the progressive forces of the Afghan Army that caused the monarchy to be overthrown in 1973 and the regime of Daud to be overthrown in 1978. Amin's oppression and strangulation of the officers and troops of the armed forces, however, seriously distrubed the army.

Efforts to make the USSR responsible, as if it participated in the armed overthrow of Amin, are baseless because the opponents of the Amin regime had enough forces at their disposal in the armed forces and in the party and were acting directly against Amin. The Soviet forces, which were present in Afghanistan at the time, faced an accomplished fact: the overthrow of the Amin regime. It should also be recalled that until 27 December 1979 the Soviet forces in Afghanistan were small. Because of the intensification of the imperialist interference, the present government has had to request further Soviet forces to come to Afghanistan.

The BAHKTAR correspondent adds that at the end of his speech Babrak Karmal awarded honorary service badges and medals to a number of soldiers, officers, NCO's and cadets of the armed forces. During the ceremony, Brig Gen Mohammad Rafi', minister of national defense, and a number of other commanders, officers and troops of the air force and air defense force, units and institutions of Kabul garrison made speeches on behalf of the members of the armed forces. They expressed their readiness to defend the Sawr Revolution and the interests of the noble and toiling people of Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA. The speeches were received with revolutionary fervor by the audience.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that at the end of the ceremony, Brig Gen Nazar Mohammad, commander of the air force and the air defense force, and Colonel Faruq, commander of the 15th Armored Troop, presented gifts from the officers, troops and personnel of the armed forces to Babrak Karmal. On behalf of their heroic officers and troops, they assured him they will defend every inch of Afghanistan against the enemies by spilling their hot blood. The grand ceremony was concluded with the playing of the DRA national anthem.

NHK TV INTERVIEWS KARMAL ON SOVIET TROOPS

OW081305 Tokyo NHK Television in Japanese 1100 GMT 8 May 81

[Report on 31 March interview with Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolution Council, by NHK Moscow correspondent Kenichi Iida in Kabul--recorded; question in English and answer in Dari fading into Japanese translation]

[Text] [Question] People in the West suspect that the Soviet troops will stay in Afghanistan almost permanently. What do you think of this?

[Answer] The first thing I have to say is that the Western media are making evil, malignant, trumped-up charges. The Soviet troops in Afghanistan have only a limited purpose, that of coping with an emergency. They are here by invitation under the Treaty of Friendship, Neighborliness and Cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. This treaty, which was signed by both governments in full compliance with legal requirements, is recognized under the UN Charter. The purpose of the treaty is to repel foreign attacks on or aggression against the legitimate government of Afghanistan. Accordingly, I can assure you that the Soviet troops will not stay here permanently. When threats to our independence, national sovereignty and territory cease, the Soviet troops will withdraw forthwith.

The DRA has repeatedly proclaimed to the world that our country is a peace-loving state and ardently desires peace and security in this region. This desire has permeated our government's repeated statements, the Moscow joint declaration, and the speeches of Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. We have time and again expressed our readiness to enter into friendly and neighborly relations with our neighbors on the principles of respect for other people's independence and territorial integrity.

DEFENSE MINISTRY ANNOUNCES OFFICER, NCO COURSES

LD102056 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 May 81

[Announcement by the Education and Training Directorate of the Ministry of National Defense]

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense is accepting 11th and 12th grade students for the crash course for officers and 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grade students for the NCO courses. Those who are interested in entering these courses should report to the Education and Training Directorate of the Ministry of Defense.

TWO BANDIT LEADERS CAPTURED IN NANGARHAR PROVINCE

GF111714 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionary insurgents who were quelled recently by soldiers and officers of the revolutionary [words indistinct] and party activists in the regions of Nangarhar Province. Two of the bandit leaders named Jamil and 'Azim were also captured. A source in the provincial security forces has reported that large quantities of American, Chinese and Pakistani weapons and ammunition were seized from these criminals.

FOUR TERRORISTS EXECUTED FOLLOWING CONFESSION

LD101554 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Our noble compatriots are aware that a number of sold-out mercenary highway robbers, who are trained in the Afghan counterrevolution camps and centers by American, British, Chinese and Egyptian instructors and mercenaries, infiltrate Afghan soil equipped with various types of weapons and equipment and carry out the wicked and mean instructions of their masters by embarking on homicide and intimidation, destroying roads, schools, hospitals and other public buildings and disrupting the peaceful and tranquil life in several regions of the country. But the alert and revolutionary security force exposes these actors of savage and inhuman actions one after the other, capturing them and handing them over to the the law. In this connection, a spokesman for the special revolutionary court said today that four of these terrorists, by the names of Gholam Hosayn, son of Mohammad Amin; 'Abdol Ghafur, son of 'Abdollah; 'Abdol Hakim, son of Ghalam Mohammad; and Mohammad Mohsen, son of 'Ali, who, on the basis of substantial documents and in the course of the jury's council, confessed all their terrorism, crimes, counterrevolution and antihuman actions, were sentenced to death in accordance with Articles 271 and 273, the final paragraph of Article 275, paragraph one of Article 221, Article 214, the first paragraph of Article 213 and the provisions of Articles 203, 175 and 395 of the criminal law. Sentence has been carried out on these four criminals in accordance with the final paragraph of Article 58 of the DRA's basic principles.

INSURGENTS REPORTED CRUSHED IN BALKH, BADHISAT

GF091639 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] Party activists and security forces of Balkh Province wiped out an insurgent band on the highway between Balkh and Mazar-I-Sharif. These insurgents were engaged in murder, robbery and inhuman activities in Balkh and [words indistinct]. A source from the security force said the insurgent band was wiped out at a time when it was engaged in stopping vehicles and robbing the passengers of their valuables. The source added that wiping out this insurgent band has dealt a severe blow to all such bands. Similarly, a band of insurgents engaged in (?inhuman) activities in Badghisat and its environs was recently wiped out. According to reports, Chinese and U.S. arms were found in the band's possession.

RATEBZAD CONGRATULATES USSR ON HITLER'S DEFEAT

LD100658 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0456 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Kabul, 9 May (BAKHTAR)--A congratulatory telegram was communicated to Moscow by Dr. Anahita Ratebzad, member of Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Union of Friendship of Societies of Afghanistan With Foreign Countries, addressed to the president of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Other Countries, and the president of Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of victory over Hitlerite fascism.

OFFICIALS ATTEND CSSR NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION

LD091816 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1430 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] The CSSR Embassy in Kabul marked its country's national day this afternoon with a reception. This reception, which was held in the residence of the CSSR ambassador, was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, deputy of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister; some members of the partv's Politburo and Central Committee; some members of the Revolution Council Presidium; some members of the Revolutiona Council and Council of Ministers; some party cadres; high-ranking officers of the armed forces; high-ranking officials of the government; and ambassadors and military attaches of the friendly countries in Kabul.

PRESIDENT GREETS MITTERRAND ON ELECTION VICTORY

BK121106 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has extended most sincere felicitations and best wishes to Francois Mitterrand on his election as the president of France.

In a message to Mitterrand, the president said that the confidence reposed in him by the French people was a testament to his great qualities of leadership. He expressed his confidence that, under the stewardship of the new president, France and the French people would continue their march on the path of progress and as always make a similar contribution to the consolidation of world peace.

The president also expressed his firm conviction that the mutual beneficial cooperation existing between Pakistan and France would be maintained and strengthened further under the Presidency of Mitterrand.

OFFICIALS SAY AFGHAN REFUGEE COUNT ABOVE 2 MILLION

BK091039 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] The heavy influx of refugees from Afghanistan to Pakistan continues unabated and their present number is officially placed at about 2 million. Radio Pakistan's representative, quoting relief officials, says that as of 30 April the total number of registered Afghan refugees stood at well over 1.93 million. Taking into account a monthly influx and the unregistered persons, the officials put the number of Afghan refugees well over 2 million.

According to these officials, in the month of March alone well over 179,000 Afghan refugees crossed over to Pakistan. In April, another 104,602 persons crossed into Pakistan. Both the relief officials as well as the head of the UNHCR mission in Islamabad had expressed surprise over the report by a foreign agency saying that the relief officials, including the UN personnel, had expressed suspicion over the Pakistan figures on the Afghan refugees problem.

The head of the UNHCR mission told Radio Pakistan's representative this afternoon that every care was being taken for correct registration of refugees. However, in view of the magnitude of the problem involving a very large influx of refugees, it was impossible for any country in the world to maintain an exact account.

BANGLADESH, SOVIET TRADE DELEGATIONS ARRIVE

BK120755 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Two trade delegations arrived in Karachi today. One of them, a three-member Bangladesh delegation led by Chairman of the Trading Corporation Kazi Azhar Ali, will explore the possibility of importing certain essential commodities from Pakistan.

The other is a Soviet trade delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade I.T. Grishin, which is to sign a barter protocol.

NONALIGNED COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT ON VISIT

GF112009 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] The evening press reports the press statement the nonaligned committee has issued on the results of its second visit to Tehran and its meeting with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. The statement says:

The ministerial committee of the Nonaligned Movement expresses its pleasure with the results of its second visit to Tehran and its meeting with the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

The committee asserted its readiness to continue to assist in implementing the principles stated in article 86 of the last statement issued by the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference in New Delhi calling for a solution to the current differences between Iraq and Iran.

The nonaligned committee believes the results of its visit to Iran and its meeting with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr are useful and positive. The committee understands the president's views and his readiness to cooperate with the committee.

The nonaligned committee told President Bani-Sadr that it would visit both countries again at the earliest opportunity--after it has studied the results of its second visit to Tehran and Baghdad--to carry out the duties assigned to it by the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference.

This decision was welcomed by Bani-Sadr, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

OFFICIALS, ORGANS DISCUSS NONALIGNED PROPOSALS

Khomeyni, Bani-Sadr Meet

GF111531 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the armed forces, met today with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They discussed various issues affecting the country.

In a statement after the meeting, the president said he and the imam discussed the proposals of the committee charged by the Nonaligned Movement with studying the war Iraq imposed on Iran. He added: The Supreme Defense Council will discuss these proposals tonight, and the results of the discussion will be announced very soon.

Referring to the degree of success that has been achieved by the committee, the president said: This depends on achieving our legitimate goals and demands. From our point of view, the committee will have been successful in its mission if this is achieved.

Defense Council Session

LD111656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau correspondent, the Supreme Defense Council has held an extraordinary session under the chairmanship of Bani-Sadr, the commander in chief of the armed forces.

The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister Raja'i; Khamene'i, the imam's representative on the council; General Fallahi, the acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; and Colonel Fakuri, the minister of defense and commander of the air force. The meeting reviewed the Nonaligned Movement's proposal, which was reviewed in the presence of Imam Khomeyni this morning when President Bani-Sadr presented it to him.

Bani-Sadr Discusses Proposals

LD112228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 11 May 81

[Interview with President Bani-Sadr by unidentified correspondent following extraordinary session of the Supreme Defense Council in Tehran 11 May--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Bani-Sadr [words indistinct] proposals (?by the nonaligned peace mission) were scheduled to be raised at tonight's session of the Defense Council. Could I ask you to state what these proposals are?

[Answer] The matter was reveiwed, and we reached results that Mr Khamene'i will explain to you.

[Question] Has this result been successful, in your view or will they again...

[Answer] This will depend upon the reply they provide to some of the questions we have.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Well, if I tell you it would be repetitious. Wait until you have asked Mr Khamene'i.

Council Spokesman Interviewed

LD112230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 11 May 81

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, secretary of Supreme Defense Council, by unidentified correspondent following extraordinary session of the Supreme Defense Council in Tehran 11 May--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Khamene'i, we had an interview with Mr Bani-Sadr regarding the outcome of the Defense Council session tonight. He said we should ask you about it. [words indistinct]

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The review that was carried out found certain ambiguities relating to the plan proposed by the nonaligned mission. It was decided that we should raise the ambiguities with them so that they can explain them; our final assessment and our firm view in this regard will come after the explanations that will be furnished.

[Question] Would you say something about the proposal itself?

[Answer] At the moment that is all I can say about the proposal itself. It is a plan that makes certain proposals. The point is, however, that we should be clear about it; the written text should be precise and specific. In certain instances this clarity is absent. When it becomes clear, we can then express our views more precisely.

[Question] The visit has been regarded as successful. As the spokesman of the council, what is your view of this?

[Answer] I do not know what successful means. At any rate, we have constantly reiterated--and we do so again now--that since we were not the ones to start the war, consequently we do not insist on continuing it. We have said this time and again. It is possible that the Zionist and imperialist propaganda apparatus has made us appear to be a war-mongering people who want (?insistently) to continue the war. When they realized that, on the contrary, we do not insist on continuing the war [sentence as heard]. The only thing is that we are not prepared to accept an unjust, unreasonable peace. Once this is realized and the good intention of the Iranian Government and leaders is understood, it will naturally be something of a success for them.

[Question] Since you did not describe the plan, do you think that Iran's stance is the same as that conveyed to the good will mission that came earlier, or is it different?

[Answer] What they are offering is different from what the previous commission proposed. The stance we conveyed on the earlier plan related to the issues that concerned that particular plan--issues that could not be met by that plan. Our principled stance is clear, specific and unchanging. In other words, what we say is the same throughout. What we say is that we are not prepared to accept aggression; we are not prepared to plead for peace--nor do we need to do this--for the effectiveness, faith and incentive of our forces are equal to the task of continuing the war until we have achieved our rights. This is our principled stance. However, we are in no way prepared to reject a just and reasonable peace plan if one is proposed. What was proposed by the previous mission suffered from shortcomings, to which we drew their attention. With regard to this plan, we cannot at the moment make any comment because it contains ambiguities. Once the matter is clarified, we can then say whether or not it meets the principles we have in mind.

[Question] How long do you think it will take for you to provide a precise answer?

[Answer] It will depend on when they reply to us.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTS ON MITTERRAND ELECTION

LD111236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 81

[Statement by Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman--announcer-read; date not given]

[Text] Should Mitterrand, the new French president, refrain from supplying arms and uranium to Iraq and should France abandon its colonialist policy, we can review relations between the Iranian and French Governments.

Bani-Sadr Cables Mitterrand

GF111104 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 May 81

[Cable from President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to Francois Mitterrand--read by announcer]

[Text] In His exalted name. Mr Francois Mitterrand, I extend my deep congratulations on your election as president of the Republic of France and wish you success in following an independent line that will serve the interests of the oppressed in your country as well as those in other countries.

The adoption of an independent French line committed to truth in foreign policy can be of great influence on achieving and deepening the basis of world peace and justice, especially in the Middle East, where oppression of the Palestinian people is considered to be a sign of oppression imposed on all peoples of the region.

[Signed] Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Raja'i on Relations With France

LD112308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, following the victory of France's Socialist Party under the leadership of Francois Mitterrand, this afternoon Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i expressed his opinion on the election of the new French president.

Referring to Mitterrand's victory, Prime Minister Raja'i said: We have not had good relations with France because of its policies toward the Islamic revolution of Iran and the war imposed by Iraq on Iran. He said: We have a cause for deep complaint against Giscard d'Estaing and those who were cooperating with him.

The prime minister added: The question now is that Francois Mitterrand was against the independence of Algeria during the French-Algerian war. He thought that Algeria should remain a colony. As far as Israel is concerned, according to the information at hand Mitterrand supported it. This is not something we have discovered; all the Muslims and all of the oppressed are aware of this fact. Therefore, our views on Mitterrand cannot be made without referring to his past record. However, we have to wait and evaluate his future actions before deciding what he will be like in the future.

On the French Government's assistance to the Iraqi regime, the prime minister said: Iraq used France for propaganda and arms and the French Government has equipped Iraq with the latest arms. But we have to see how the new French president will react to this issue. We have no lasting ideological ties with France. Should the new French Government change its stand, stop supporting the Iraqi Government and amend its stand toward our Islamic revolution, then we, too, will have relations with France.

The prime minister then added: We have one relationship with the people of France and another with their government. We consider the French government's policy toward the Islamic revolution to be unsuitable.

YAZDI REPORTS TO KHOMEYNI ON 3-MAN COMMITTEE'S WORK

LD111436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 81

[Interview with Mohammad Yazdi, spokesman of the three-man committee investigating the differences among Iran's leaders, conducted by unidentified Tehran radio reporter following 11 May meeting in Tehran between the committee and Imam Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Yazdi, the three-man committee [words indistinct] could you tell us what you discussed with the imam?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. After the committee became official, we decided to go to the imam as a group to offer our reports and to ask him for guidance. Naturally, the committee asked me, as the spokesman, to present a brief report to the imam. We gave him statistics on the complaints from governmental officials and from people connected with governmental officials, newspapers and other publications. We also spoke to him about other issues in the country. We gave the imam a list of these issues and explained the actions taken.

He expressed general satisfaction with the committee's work. He offered special guidance on the overall direction of the committee. He also said that our work should be carried out in a way that will bring the various factions closer together. I believe that the work of the committee shows that it (?has been effective) even though it has only worked for a short time. If the committee can work faster and toward this desired goal [words indistinct].

[Question] The committee was supposed to eliminate bureacracy. What has it achieved so far?

[Answer] The committee has done this. We have not written letters to anyone if it has been possible to make direct contact. We have even gone to the extent of summoning authorities to our sessions and talking to them. We will be doing this again. I would certainly say that we have not under any circumstances wasted our time with papers, letters and so forth unless it has been necessary for the sake of records and documents. [Words indistinct] otherwise, we have performed our tasks mainly through personal contacts.

Spokesman on 11 May Session

LD111744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] According to PARS, the 3-man mediation committee held a meeting today. At the end of today's session the committee spokesman, Dr Mohammad Yazdi, referred to the topics discussed in the meeting. He said:

The first important subject discussed in the session today was the imam's guidance, which has improved the committee's efficiency. The committee has made two decisions on the subject: first, Mr Eshraqi was appointed to meet Mr Raja'i, and I was appointed to meet Mr Bani-Sadr. The subjects discussed at these meetings will then be discussed at a meeting of the committee and decisions will be made on discussions with high government officials.

The other subject discussed in the session today was a letter from Seyyed Mohammad Khamene'i in which he referred to an article in the 503d edition of ENQELAB-E ESLAMI in the "President's Diary" column. Following a discussion of his points, a letter was written to Mr Khamene'i that briefly says: Since the committee intends to act to solve certain matters at their roots, and as some mention has been made previously, we therefore do not deem it necessary to further mention the subject.

Yazdi added: Part of today's session was spent on a review of newspapers, especially certain subjects recently under discussion in them. Our views will be expressed later because of the decision previously mentioned.

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES AZARBAIJAN CLERICS 11 MAY

LD111540 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 81

[Address by Ayatollah Khomeyni at an 11 May meeting at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran with west and east Azarbaijan clerics, attended by the Tabriz Friday imam, Ayatollah Madani--recorded; duration 40 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This is a meeting of the great ulema from Azarbaijan. In the meeting--which the blessings of almighty [words indistinct]--it is necessary for me to make some points to the ulema of Azarbaijan and to the ulema throughout the nation. Azarbaijan and its ulema have for all time been guardians of Islam and the country and--God willing--will remain so. [chants indistinct]

During this period [words indistinct] you and other ulema of Azarbaijan acted according to religious duties and rose against the Pahlavi regime [words indistinct]. We expect the same from Azarbaijan, especially its ulema, that we expected from its former ulema in the past 50 years. We have hopes that the Azarbaijan ulema will [words indistinct] and consider all their [words indistinct] and strive to solve all the problems that we and they face, that they be aware that unclean hands and decadant groups have stood against the clergy and the Islamic republic. It is with the awareness of all the nation and of their ulema--especially in Azarbaijan, where the plots are thickest--that other faithful groups in Azarbaijan will carry out duties toward Islam.

Another comment I make is to those who are not involved in issues and who stay in corners or in their houses and nevertheless complain. [Words indistinct] to the (?ulema) who complain about these matters and [words indistinct]. It is easy to criticize. A person can sit down, think and collect his thoughts and then complain. What is difficult is solving problems. We need thousands of judges in this country today. Shar' judges. [magistrates]

These gentlemen must accept one of several things. Either they should say, We must eliminate judgment in the Islamic republic; there should be no judgment--only chaos, so that anyone can plunder anyone else's wealth or kill anyone or violate anyone's honor without any judgment. This is one way. Another assumption is that we should have the judicial system we had before, as during the Pahlavi regime, meaning that [words indistinct] does not need to be a Muslim. I was told that they had communists among their judges and also those who drank alchohol. The great ulema should either accept that there is no need for faithful clerical judges and [words indistinct]. It should remain as before, with control in the hands of those of the Pahlavi regime.

This is one assumption. The other is that judgment should be in the hands of the class designated by the Shar'. You know that clerical circles in Iran and abroad not only had totally lost the power of judgment, but for a long time were also not allowed to train judges. We need thousands of judges today. We have a shortage.

It is preferable that the critical ones get together and solve our problems. As for those who are critical of the government, who are actually standing up to the Islamic republic and who do not accept its government, I say to these people: Do you know of any government that could take over if this government is toppled and then turn this country into a paradise? Do you know of any group or source, presumably concealed by the government, who could take over and solve the problems concerning several millions of refugees, war refugees, other refugees and those made homeless by Iraq, refugees from Afghanistan? Do you know of such a government? Do you realize what you are doing? It would result in Azhari coming to power should this government be toppled. These people are waiting abroad, in Paris, plotting to replace this Islamic government and run things themselves. Do you have anyone who could perform a speedy miracle and solve all problems if this government was toppled? Do you have a government to replace this Islamic government, a government you claim to be corrupt from top to bottom? Could you then establish an Islamic government similar to the one now in power, considering the present circumstances when we are at war, when we are under an economic blockade?

They orally deny it, but it does exist, even now, even when foreigners refuse to repay their debts, when they refuse to supply the government with what it has already purchased, when they are actively engaged in opposing this Islamic republic. If you know of any such a government then let us know. Do let us know about these people, who can finish everything this government has left unfinished or has not yet been able to accomplish. Let us know about these people, who are capable of providing housing for all refugees within 1 day, 10 days or 1 month, improving everything, ending the war and establishing an honorable peace.

Let us know about these people, who are capable of reactivating agriculture immediately, reactivating trade, reopening Islamic universities and eventually turning Iran into a paradise. Well then, let us know about these people. (?Or) is it that you want to get rid of this government and have it replaced with the former regime? If you cannot produce such a government, if you fail to do so, then it becomes clear that you oppose the Islamic republic because of its Islamic nature--that is, as long as it is not Islamic it does not matter what it is. This is what you want, you want to see the end of the Islamic republic.

The man who claims that conditions are worse now than they were under the cursed shah, does he know what he is saying? Does he realize what harm he is doing to Islam? Does he realize what happened under the cursed former shah to this nation, to our women, to individuals in this country, to the clergy? Does he know what they suffered without being able to utter a word?

These gentlemen are now looking at the extent of complaints being made, whereas in the past there were no possible complaints at all. In the past, when they used to take people's property forcibly and waste their lives, there may not have been any complaints. The thing is that there were complaints but no one dared voice them. If in those days the people were given today's freedom for a single day, then you would have seen how extensive the complaints would have been, you would have noticed the clergymen's complaints, the bazaar merchants' complaints. The difference between now and then is that today the people do complain if it is warranted while you people exaggerate these complaints, whereas in those days the people were stifled because there was repression and people would not even dare to breathe. The former regime denied the people breath. Now you have advanced so much that you can stand up to the government and say this is wrong. Would you have been able to say the same thing or write such articles under the former regime?

The difference between now and then is that you are free to write--may God break your pens--you are free to write about all Islamic sanctities and criticize them without being stopped--although you ought to be. The difference between now and then is that in the past you were submissive; even if you had something to say you couldn't say it, whereas today you are making use of your tongues, pens and legs and claiming that the Islamic republic is worse than in the past.

You ought to be grateful for God's blessings; you ought to look at the things achieved in help for the poor, the needy and the oppressed, rather than ignoring every positive step taken merely because corruption has emerged somewhere. This is not fair; it is contrary to God's wishes to ignore what is being done by these people [presumably the government] night and day. However, there is so much corruption, there are so many (?subversive acts) that they are unable to attend to all these things immediately. However, over the past 2 years they have accomplished more than what was accomplished over the previous 50. You must not be ungrateful. God forbid, God might refuse you his blessings and then you will be ensnared in what you faced over the past 50 years.

We have repeatedly told those who are fighting against us with their pens and weapons--and we tell them again now--so long as you draw arms against the nation--that is, you have risen against Islam with arms--we cannot hold talks or meet. Lay down your arms and return to the bosom of Islam. Islam will accept you and Islam protects you all. Just by saying that we are ready, and in your letter in which you claimed innocence and [word indistinct], but then you have [words indistinct] and threatened us with an armed uprising. How can we have an understanding with those who intend to stage an armed uprising against Islam? Forget these matters and this course of action, surrender your arms. If you say, we accept and [words indistinct] the law despite not having voted, then act in accordance with the law. Revolt against a government that is (?contrary to) the law. Armed uprising is against the law and possession of firearms is contrary to the laws of the land. Act against this. Then we will treat you better than you would wish. We wish to welcome all the groups with open arms. We want all who have deviated to return to [word indistinct].

At present, you can see some parties who have deviated and whom we do not consider Islamic, but since they do not have any plans for an armed uprising and are merely making political speeches they are free and have free publications. Therefore, you should know that it is not as if we oppose other parties or groups. Of course we would like all groups and parties to return to Islam, follow Islam's straight path and become Muslims. Even if they do not become Muslims, as long as they do not fight against us and the Islamic country and do not stage an armed uprising against Islam, they can act freely and speak freely. But you have no excuse to do this, and if I [words indistinct] that you stop doing what you are doing, I would be prepared to come to terms with you and (?come to you). There would be no need for you to come to me.

And now, in accordance with Islamic rulings, I advise you that you cannot do a thing against the roaring tide of the nation. If the nation were to rise, you would be like an atom compared with this roaring tide. Return to the bosom of Islam; whatever others promise you, Islam has in store for your. [as heard] Forget armed uprising, return whatever you have plundered from the treasury of the Muslims; cooperate with the Muslims. You are esteemed and respectable, but as long as you hold weapons in your hands and threaten an uprising in your letter--in which you claim to be innocent and made demands for reforms and understanding--we cannot accept this from you. It would be better for you not to oppose this republic. If you really sympathize with these people, this nation, these workers and these farmers, you should know that if, God forbid, this Islamic republic were to be defeated, it would be a defeat for the oppressed throughout the world.

May peace and God's mercy be upon you.

CABINET ON STEEL STOCKS, FOREIGN TRADE CONTROL

LD111328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The Cabinet held a session at 0600 today chaired by Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i. According to the Central News Bureau, after the recital of verses from the Koran, the prime minister submitted a short report on various events in Iran and other countries.

The minister of state in charge of the national steel company submitted a report to the Cabinet concerning the steel industry, particularly Iran's stock in the Krupp steel company. This stock is especially important because Iran owns 25.24 percent of the total shares of the company. The minister of state also discussed the unfavorable conditions of the steel industry, the government's policy and the position adopted by the Islamic kepublic government representative before the supervisory council and the general assembly of shareholders.

The minister of commerce raised the general points of the bill to establish state control over foreign trade, which was discussed at length. It was decided that a committee comprising the ministers of economy and finance, commerce, plan and budget, industries and mines, agriculture, labor and social affairs, and foreign affairs should examine the proposed bill fully before the deadline for presenting the bill to the Majlis, and should submit the results of this study to the Cabinet so that a decision on the bill can be made.

The second 2-month budget bill for 21 March 1981-20 March 1982 was raised. The technical committee was asked to review it thoroughly, compile amendments and submit them to the Cabinet.

The session ended at 0945.

FAKURI INTERVIEWED ON MEETING WITH KHOMEYNI

LD111222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 81

[Unidentified correspondent's interview on 11 May with Minister of Defense Colonel Fakuri--recorded]

[Text] [Question] (?Colonel), what was the purpose of your meeting the imam today, and what were his instructions?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I met with the imam today to discuss some issues and to receive instructions. One of the issues raised with him was the $56 million embezzlement. Recently political advantage has been made of this issue, which might jeopardize the reputations of innocent people or--God forbid--show some people to be more guilty than they are or cause pessimism and anxiety among the people. The imam said that this should be avoided, and that the issue should take its judicial course. He also gave other instructions, which will be followed.

CHIEF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR ARRIVES FOR TABRIZ SEMINAR

LD081646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 May 81

[Excerpt] Musavi-Ardabili, the country's chief public prosecutor, arrived in Tabriz this morning to attend a seminar of clergymen from western and eastern Azarbayjan and to speak during the Friday prayers. In a short interview with PARS on the penal code bill, he said: I endorse this bill; criticisms directed against it are not altogether justified.

Regarding the activities of various groups, the chief public prosecutor said: The public prosecutor's plan is separate from that of the government. The government has announced its plans in this matter.

After inspecting police and revolutionary court prisons in Tabriz this morning, the chief public prosecutor said: I did not see the slightest trace of torture during this visit, nor did I hear any complaints from the prisoners. There are 1,500 prisoners in these prisons, and their condition from the health, nutrition and recreation point of view is satisfactory.

MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON COUNTRY'S ENERGY POLICY

LD092046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 81

[Excerpts] Today, Energy Minister 'Abbaspur, speaking in a PARS interview, described that ministry's future policy for securing the country's energy. He said that the laws governing the country's energy supplies must be based on a proper program, such as that which has been in operation since last month with the cooperation of the committed Iranian engineers and experts from universities, the Energy Ministry and the other relevant centers.

He said: Since we have adquate fossil resources, naturally we need not worry about the country's future energy requirements; the important issue is finding the best ways of using the available sources of energy. He then added that the country's energy council, which comprises several ministries and organizations, had planned the country's energy and was supposed to explain future energy policies.

Regarding cooperation between foreign companies with expertise and the Energy Ministry, he said: This ministry will not use foreign expertise, but there are shortcomings in some specializations; we will give authority to Iranian experts, but we will also use the foreign experts who can help us as experts.

Concerning the current year's budget of the Energy Ministry, he said that the government had allocated 132 billion rials to electricity and 65 billion rials to water.

Referring to the manpower and the specialist cadres in the Ministry of Energy, he said: Given that in the past, many projects were carried out by foreign contractors and consultants, now for the sake of the country's self-sufficiency we need the cooperation of Iranian experts.

As regards future plans, the Energy Ministry invites experienced engineers from inside and outside the country specializing in electrical, mechanical, civil engineering and other relevant fields to cooperate with this ministry in huge projects in dam construction, power stations, transmission lines and other developmental projects.

MAHABAD GOVERNMENTAL WORKERS ASKED TO REPORT FOR DUTY

LD101848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the Mahabad government offices, closed due to insecurity and unrest created by counterrevolutionary elements, have been reopened. The Mahabad Governorate asked all the government employees formerly employed in the city but now working elsewhere in Iran to return to their offices within 1 week of this announcement. They will not be regarded as employed at any of the offices if they do not comply.

14 MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION GROUP REPORTEDLY ARRESTED

NC111544 Paris AFP in English 1425 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Tehran, 11 May (AFP)--Authorities have arrested 14 reputed members of the Oveysi group, accused of a series of recent explosions in Tehran and several other cities, KEYHAN newspaper reported today, quoting statements made last week in Tabriz by General Prosecutor Musavi Ardabili.

The group is named after General Gholam 'Ali Oveysi, the former head of military staff under the late shah who is organizing opposition to the Islamic Republic from his headquarters in exile abroad.

The 10 men and four women arrested met members of the shah's family and generals under the former ruler to organize plots and "set off explosions to show the world that the government is not stable and has lost control of the country," the newspaper reported.

Two explosions late last month in Tehran and in the western city of Kermanshah killed nine people and wounded dozens of others. Responsibility for the blasts was not claimed.

KEYHAN also reported that six prisoners accused of causing riots in Meshed prison in eastern Iran have been shot.

Twenty-three people charged with "drug trafficking, illegal weapons possession and collaboration with the counter-revolution" were found by a revolutionary court to have been involved in the riots, KEYHAN said.

RAJA'I MEETS WESTERN FRONT COMMANDER 11 MAY

GF112015 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Abu Sharif, commander of operations on the western front, met with Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i this afternoon. They discussed the situation on the western front and those who have been rendered homeless as a result of the war.

MIANDOW AB GOVERNOR CONFIRMS REPORTS OF FIGHTING

LD121154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] PARS reports that in yesterday's heavy fighting in ('Alibalta) village, (Sangdezh), between the defenders of the Islamic revolution and outlawed armed groups, heavy casualties were inflicted on the armed assailants, the accurate figures of which have not yet been established. The Miandow Ab governor confirmed the report this morning, saying: In this fighting one of Islam's defenders was martyred and another wounded. It should be noted that ('Alibalta) is situated between (Sangdezh) and Takab.

AFP: RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON MEN OF MILITARY AGE

NC100832 Paris AFP in English 0817 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Tehran, 10 May (AFP)--Iranians who completed military service in 1976 or 1977 and were then recalled when war with Iraq broke out eight months ago will only be allowed to leave the country under certain conditions, reports said today. They would need either special permission or a certificate proving they had spent at least six months at the war front, the national airline Iraniar, quoted by Iranian newspapers, today said.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUE 499

LD111740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Communique 499 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Some of the operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation on the battlefronts as reported up to 1800 on 11 May are hereby announced for the information of our combatant Muslim Iranian compatriots:

In the past 24 hours, firing has continued on most of the western and southern fronts between the defenders of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the enemy aggressor. The fire of selfless Iranian units against enemy position on the Abadan-Mahshahr axis and Khuninshahr (?road) destroyed two tanks, a number of other vehicles, a 106-mm gun emplacement, one mortar position, three RPG-7 entrenchments, one heavy machinegun position, one fuel container, several observation posts, a building occupied by the enemy, and trenches and foxholes. Some Iraqis were killed or wounded.

The enemy brought Abadan under its heavy weapon fire.

On Marivan front, the operations of Islam's forces against the enemy aggressor resulted in the destruction of 3 vehicles and the killing or wounding of 64 Iraqi personnel. Two RPG-7's were also captured. On another front in the same area, the selfless (?fighters) of Islam fired at Saddam's army and inflicted some damage on the enemy.

Another four of Saddam's repentant personnel came to our forces in Marivan seeking asylum and were welcomed.

On 9 May, 10 soldiers of the Ground Forces and 3 members of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred while defending the Islamic homeland and went to God's embrace. May their souls be blessed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

EX-PREMIER TO SET UP ANTI-KHOMEYNI COUNCIL

LD081541 Paris LE MONDE in French 8 May 81 p 6

[Unattributed report: "'Ali Amini Calls for the Regime To Be Overthrown"]

[Text] 'Ali Amini, a former Iranian prime minister under the shah's regime, has announced the further creation of a "council that will assume the burdens of state and will contribute to installing a strong government capable of restoring order and security" in Iran "after the people's victory" over the current regime in Tehran.

In a communique issued in Paris on 5 May, 76-year-old 'Ali Amini indicated that this "council" would comprise prominent figures, some of whom are now living abroad and others in Iran. Addressing himself to "all Iranians," he said "it is no longer the time to sit back and do nothing." He said he was convinced that "the army, air force, navy, the gendarmes and national police officers will join any patriotic movement."

Amini, who has been living in France since 1979, opines in his communique that "the record of 2 years of government by these so-called holy men boils down to ruin, famine and bankruptcy." With regard to the Iranian-Iraqi war, he said that the Iraqis "must withdraw from Iranian tertitory, and after that the two countries will be able to restore neighborly relations based on international law and the existing agreements."

BAKHTIAR SENDS MESSAGE TO ARMENIAN COMPATRIOTS

NC100857 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 8 May 81

[Message by Shahpur Bakhtiar issued on 7 May presumably in Paris to "the compatriots and especially to the Armenian compatriots"—recorded]

[Text] My dear brothers and sisters: The attack by the regime's mercenary hooligans against our Armenian compatriots in Isfahan once again unveils the (?antinational) [word indistinct] and anti-Iranian rule of Ruhollah Khomeyni to the world.

In this recent, sad incident, the hooligans and rogues, whom Khomeyni has labeled (?guards) of the Islamic revolution and whom he has thrown at the throats of the Iranian nation, savagely raided the Armenian quarter in Isfahan, injuring hundreds of our Armenian compatriots with clubs and arms and arresting hundreds more. They created unprecedented fear among families.

This was not the first case of the molestation of and disrespect for these religious centers and residential quarters by the religious fascists.

The Armenians are not the only group of religious minorities to be molested and harassed by religious fanatics. Throughout the 2 years and some months of its tyrannical domination in our homeland, the anti-Islamic and anti-Iranian rule of Ruhollah Khomeyni has committed numerous crimes against religious minorities and has also created shocking calamities. Despite their false claims about safeguarding and respecting the rights of religious minorities, the fascist pseudoclergy ruling our country have given nothing but death, tears and blood to this group of (?noble) Iranians.

The fanaticism and bigotry of Khomeyni and his criminal associates is such that even our Sunni compatriots and various sects of the Shi'ite sect have not been and are not safe from his molestation and oppression.

Oh Christian compatriots, Iranian jews, Zoroaster brothers and sisters! Even though I am sure that you do not list the foreign-worshiping clique of Khomeyni with your other Muslim compatriots, I wish to stress once again that the Iranian nation condemns the crimes committed by the bigoted religious fanatics against you. You yourselves are the best witnesses of the treatment received by religous minorities from Iranians throughout the centuries. The Iranians have not only never molested anyone because of religious differences but have, as best as possible, tried to support and be the friend of races that were molested and oppressed because of their beliefs. Our homeland, Iran, as its glorious history proves, has always been the refuge of various minorities.

My dear brothers and sisters, I assure you that this dark night and the period of Khomeyni's abominable sedition will end as did the other tempests that our homeland has seen. In the bright tomorrow that awaits the Iranian nation, sovereignty will be the definite and indisputable right of the nation. And in exercising this sovereignty, the Iranian nation, men and women of both the religious majority or minority, will be equal. In other words, the determining factor for each Iranian will be, above all, (?his nationality). Within the framework of national rights, when one speaks of Iranian, it includes each Iranian, both men and women, both from the religious majority and minority. (?The framework of religion first of all controls the personal status of people).

I also assure you that at the end of Khomeyni's sedition and after the reestablishment of natioanl sovereignty, those responsible for this crime will be tried in legal national trials and, irrespective of their garb, they will be tried for their antihuman crimes and acts without showing any indulgence.

Iran shall never die.

[Signed] Shahpur Bakhtiar, 7 May 1981

NVOI ON SAVAKISTS, THATCHER VISIT TO REGION

TA110640 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 10 May carried two commentaries, the first entitled: "The need for a Deep Purge in the Organizations Because of the Existence of Savakists." The commentary said:

The recent clashes and events in our country have one again created the need for a purge in all systems of society, administrative and governmental apparatus as well as in the revolutionary institutions. As a result of Dr Bazargan's provincial government, many former Savakists have infiltrated revolutionary institutions and governmental organizations. It is these elements who, by claiming to be Muslims, have entered the arena and are inflicting blows on the revolution. The popular and anti-imperialist Iranian revolution has secured freedom and democracy for all the Iranian nation, all the true revolutionary forces and all the groups and organizations true to the Iranian revolution. This is one of the gains of the Iranian revolution that undoubtedly differentiates the present system from the former regime. It is right that all the constitutional decrees of the Islamic Republic of Iran be implemented exhaustively and the people take advantage of the rights of the revolution in practice, but there are certain groups who impede this implementation. Among these groups we can refer to the Hezbollahis, who, under the excuse of Islam, resort to those very actions carried out by the Shahanshi elements. Since they operate under the mask of Islam, no authority has sought to identify them or prevent their action.

According to witnesses and documents, during these recent clashes, in addition to the direct participation of extreme left and right groups, these so-called Hezbollahis also fanned antirevolutionary flames. The regretful thing is that these pseudo-Muslim Savakists enjoy the support of some officials.

As the imam has said, law should rule. It is according to the law that the subversive and counterrevolutionary activities of the so-called Hezbollahis should be decisively prevented. Security should be guaranteed for the people and the people justly demand that the names of the Savakists be published.

The second commentary on the program was entitled: "The United States and Britain Are Fanning Convulsion in Our Region." It said:

As we know, the British prime minister recently visited several Asian countries. The Indian Government rejected the anti-Afghan policy of Britain. According to the Indian Government, this policy is to the advantage of Washington and prepares the expansion of the activities of Afghan counterrevolutionaries, who are concentrated in Pakistan. The Indian Government also condemned Britain's support for the U.S.' anti-Iranian policy, especially the economic blockade of Iran, as well as the subversive activities of the CIA in abolishing the revolutionary gains of the Iranian nation.

The supplying of arms to the reactionary military regime of Pakistan, which has undertaken the role of gendarme for crushing the freedom-seeking movements of the Near and Middle East, is a serious threat to India and all the countries of the Persian Gulf, including our homeland. It is clear to all that for some time now, Pakistan, by following U.S. policy, has resorted to subversive activities and plots against our country. It is from Pakistan that former dirty Savak elements are dispatched to Iran. In Iranian Baluchestan, the Pakistanis create military bases, form armed counterrevolutionary groups and fan the activities of the Khan and Sardar minorities in this province. The Americans have transformed Pakistan into the bridgehead between the principal U.S. base in Diego Garcia and the Persian Gulf, a region impudently called a zone of vital interests by the Americans.

The British prime minister has also played her go-between role to the advantage of the United States in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. During her meeting with King Khalid, Thatcher exerted efforts to convince him that maintaining the security of the Persian Gulf oil resources, especially Saudi Arabia, was a necessary issue. The question arises: Who is threatening the oil resources of the Persian Gulf or Saudi Arabia?

Everyone is aware that it is the United States that has concentrated its vast naval force in the Persian Gulf and has established military bases around this region. Everyone knows that the socialist countries possess neither a soldier nor a military base in this region. Thatcher exerted efforts to allegedly prove that maintaining security in countries possessing oil depends on the U.S. military presence and that U.S. military bases in Kenya, Somalia, Egypt and Oman should be expanded. Only Qabus' Oman welcomed Thatcher's proposal for the expansion of the U.S. military presence in the region. Other countries such as Kuwait condemned this Thatcher effort and announced their opposition to U.S. interventions in the domestic affairs of the region, stressing that maintaining the security in the Persian Gulf was a concern of the countries of this region.

Progressive opinion in the Near and Middle East and all the nations of our region are justly worried over the increase in the U.S.' militaristic and adventurist policy in this volatile and sensitive part of the world. They want the United States and its allies to put an end to their military bases and presence in the region.

VOICE OF IRAN WARNS AGAINST FEDA'IYAN-E KHALQ

NC100928 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 9 May 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Compatriots: You have started a war against a regime (?lacking principles) and you should identify its weaknesses and strong points. You should never forget, even for a moment, the extremely important principle that by identifying the enemy and by determining his weak and strong points, overthrowing it will be easier.

Compatriots! In this destiny-making struggle that you are carrying out, you should, above all, neutralize the propaganda maneuvers of the rule of blood and gunpowder. As an example, the Islamic republican regime is not so uninformed as to not know that it has no other supporters but the mercenary Hezbollahis throughout Iran and that its opponents are many.

Compatriots! Inflict blows on this wave of propaganda and lies by the regime (?under any circumstances and everywhere). Always be on the alert for these [word indistinct] and (?instigatory) maneuvers by this (?hypocritical) regime and [words indistinct] (?see the reality).

One example of this reality is that Mojahedin-e Khalq is not a force to be ignored and that the opposition that this organization shows today is on the same basis as the support it formerly showed this infernal regime. Its opposition to this regime at this time, when a nation has (?risen against the Islamic regime to express its deep abhorrence), has resulted in the (?support) of some people for this organization. However, the type of opposition shown by the whole Iranian nation is fundamentally different than that shown by the Mojahedin-e Khalq.

The Mojahedin-e Khalq cannot (?reflect) the deep-rooted national and Iranian demands of [words indistinct]. But when [word indistinct] movements in the form of streets protests and (?marches) are seen here and there, they also join the people and, as far as their tactic of struggle is concerned, they see that it is to their benefit for the regime to attribute the general movement of the Iranian people to them.

Compatriots! We and you who know what the reality is should unveil these propaganda tricks by the regime and by the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Our movement today is actually an unnamed movement. It is the natural and inevitable movement of a (?harmed) nation and does not bear the name of any specific organization or any specific individual. This is a nationalist movement and, like all nationalist movements, there are many possibilities for it to be used (?by the tactics) of opportunists such as Bani-Sadr and Bazargan and organizations such as the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Your vigilance will thwart (?these plans). [Passage indistinct] You should not allow the opportunity for the (?fruits) of the struggle to be picked by [word indistinct] organizations of international communism in different names, especially in the name of the non-Iranian Tudeh Party, which is (?hiding) like a snake in the Islamic regime and other organizations.

RADIO IRAN REPORTS ATTACK ON TEHRAN GARRISON

NC092149 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] Reports from Tehran state that 2 days ago, many people attacked the Heshmatiyeh garrison in Tehran and confiscated a large quantity of arms and ammunition. The people's attack on the garrison resulted in the intervention of revolution guards and committee agents and in (?clashes). According to the same report, after the occupation of the garrison traffic was completely halted for about 3-4 hours. Khomeyni's radio and television have not referred to the people's successful attack on the garrison, hoping thereby to hide this event from the other residents of Tehran and the people in other parts of the country. Other reports from Tehran state that recently, especially during the past few days, Khomeyni's revolution guards have been moving about the city in groups of at least 10. The reason for this is that the revolution guards fear armed groups. According to the same report, the guards and Khomeyni's rule are now sure that in addition to big and small groups, a large number of Tehran's residents are also armed. This has caused great fear among the regime's officials, especially the revolution guards.

FREE VOICE APPEALS TO NATIONAL RESISTANCE GROUPS

NC081742 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 8 May 81

[Message to national resistance groups in Iran]

[Text] Khomeyni's regime is trying to silence the shouts of protest by the disgusted people of Iran with the bullets of the mercenary revolution guards' machineguns. By forming national resistance groups throughout Iran, you are intensifying your struggle against the despotic and dictatorial regime of Khomeyni. Armed struggle is the only way to achieve salvation from the executioner ruling Iran.

Oh national resistance groups and movements! You should be alert and identify the subservient agents of the regime and crush them with all your might. Do not allow suspicious elements to infiltrate the national resistance groups.

The resistance movements in factories and workshops are dutybound to act according to the program of the central committees of the National Resistance Movement and to implement, at a suitable opportunity, the (?plans) to be tendered to them. If necessary, other (?advice) will be broadcast on the Free Voice of Iran.

The armed forces [words indistinct] will enter the arena [word indistinct] to national resistance movements.

Babak National Resistance Group, Mazyar National Resistance Group, and Shanin National Resistance Group: We have received your messages. Be extremely careful in carrying out your objectives and do not allow suspicious people to infiltrate your groups.

FREE VOICE ANNOUNCEMENT ON STATION MANAGEMENT

NC092022 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 9 May 81

[Station announcement]

[Text] The Free Voice of Iran is not affiliated with any party or group. It is managed by a group of intellectuals and nationalist Iranian writers. The Free Voice of Iran is the voice of all opponents and strugglers against the dictatorship and despotism of Khomeyni.

NEPAL

AFP REPORTS RESULTS OF NATIONAL ELECTION

OW111847 Hong Kong AFP in English 1740 GMT 11 May 81

[Excerpts] Katmandu, May 11 (AFP)--Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa has been elected with an absolute majority of votes in the National Panchayat election held on May 9, official sources said here today.

Prime Minister Thapa has bagged 40,546 votes of the total 48,561 votes cast in the election. Five candidates had contested against Prime Minister Thapa. However, the margin of votes drawn by his oppositions were far behind. Nearest rival Bishnu Prasad Limbu has 4091 votes, while the other four remained far behind.

The vote casting in Premier Thapa's home town constituency at Dhankuta was 84 percent and 2,316 votes were declared invalid, official sources further stated.

While counting in Katmandu was not yet completed and so far Mrs Nani Mainya Dahal, 39, a barefooted village woman who had never attended school, is leading her four nearest rivals. Mrs Dahal has bagged [number indistinct] votes, while her nearest rival, Jog Mehar Shrestha, the former home minister, has drawn 5,454 votes.

Mrs. Kamal Rana, former vice speaker of the dissolved parliament, spouse of a retired army general, Mrs. Kamal Rana has drawn 4,200 votes and Prakash Man Singh has bagged 2,153 votes.

In Katmandu district a total of 118,000 votes have been cast and altogether 34 candidates have contested in the election for the two seats of the National Panchayat. So far approximately 25,000 votes have been counted.

GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE UNTIL NEW CABINET FORMED

BK111517 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] His majesty the king has commanded the present Council of Ministers to continue in office until the commencement of the Rashtriya Panchayat session to recommend the appointment of the prime minister in accordance with the provisions of the amended Constitution of Nepal.

Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa had earlier submitted his resignation to his majesty the king, stating the need for the appointment of a prime minister and the constitution of the Council of Ministers after the completion of the results of the elections.

This was stated in a communique issued in Katmandu today by the principal press secretariat of his majesty the king.